

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Sixty-First Annual Session

—OF THE—

Salem Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

The Church at Enon, Pike County, Alabama,

on Saturday, September 28th, 1899.

OFFICERS:

D. C. ALLEN,	- - - - -	MODERATOR.
W. B. DARBY,	- - - - -	CLERK.

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A CORRECTION.

*On the first page, second line, the seventh word
should be "ENON," instead of "Orion," as printed.
Printer.*

MINUTES.

The Sixty-First Session of the Salem Baptist Association convened with the church at Orion, Pike county, Ala., on the 28th day of September, A. D. 1899.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. D. B. Mills from the 3rd chapter of Galatians and the 26th, 27th and 28th verses. Adjourned for refreshment.

At 1:30 p. m. the Messengers assembled in the house and were called to order by Eld. D. C. Allen, the former Moderator—Eld. W. C. Avant leading in prayer. Letters from sixteen churches were handed in and, upon request of the Moderator, were read by Elders W. C. Avant and W. A. Parker, Jr., and messengers were enrolled as follows:

From Ebenezer—W. W. Smith and N. H. Green.

From Enon—G. W. Hardin, S. B. Lewis, W. Stewart.

From Zebulon—B. F. Hickman and J. H. Mullis.

From Richland—J. E. Griggs and J. B. Gannon.

From Providence—Eld. D. B. Mills.

From Antioch—W. J. Wilson and I. B. Armstrong.

From Bethel—D. M. Tew and W. J. Wilks.

From Pea River—W. H. Mahoney and L. B. Tew.

From Shady Grove—Eld. D. C. Allen.

From St. Johns—C. M. Stinson.

From Spring Hill—W. A. McBryde, J. B. Whitehead.

From White Rock—Eld. J. W. Reynolds.

From Henderson—W. B. Darby, J. W. Head and J. D. Warrick.

From Mt. Moriah—C. N. Mallett and T. J. Lee.

From Harmony—Eld. J. J. Nelson and H. H. Curry.

From Lebanon—M. J. Youngblood, C. T. Spradley and G. F. Youngblood.

Starkeville and Chapel Hill were not represented.

The former officers were then re-elected, to-wit:

Eld. D. C. Allen, Moderator, and W. B. Darby, Clerk-Treasurer.

The Moderator then announced as Committee on Divine Service, W. W. Smith, with Messengers from Enon church; and, as Committee on Finance, J. W. Head, J. T. Renfroe and J. B. Whitehead.

On motion, the time for meeting and adjourning was

fixed so as to meet at 8:30 a. m., and adjourn at 11 o'clock for preaching; reassemble at 1:30 p. m., and adjourn at will.

The following named correspondents responded to the call:

From Pea River Association—Eld. W. A. Parker, Jr.
 From Alabama Association—Eld. W. C. Avant.
 From Eufaula Association—Eld. I. E. Meyers.
 From New Providence Association—Eld. W. A. Cumbie.
 From Centennial Association—Bros. W. C. Dozier and J. F. Trawick.

On a call for Agents the following named brethren responded: Eld. D. B. Mills for Alabama Baptist and Baptist Standard; Eld. W. A. Cumbie, State Board of Missions; Eld. W. A. Parker, Jr., for Institute Board, and Eld. W. C. Avant for the Orphan's Home.

The Moderator then announced the following as committees:

On Documents—J. W. Reynolds, J. E. Griggs and G. F. Youngblood.

On Colportage—M. J. Youngblood, J. D. Warrick and G. W. Hardin.

On Periodicals—C. T. Spradley, B. F. Hickman and N. H. Green.

On Nominations—C. N. Mallett, H. H. Curry and W. J. Wilson.

On Deceased Ministers—W. A. McBryde, W. H. Mahoney and D. M. Tew.

On motion the Association adjourned for the day.

NOTE—Eld. W. A. Parker, Jr., preached at 7 p. m. Theme: Son-ship to God and Final Preservation of the Saints.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

At 8:30 a. m. the Association was called to order. Prayer by Eld. W. A. Cumbie.

The roll was called and revised.

Minute of the first day's session was read and approved.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The following report on Education was read by the chairman of the committee:

Education is one of the important things that people may have succeeded without in the past; but in this age of sharp competition no class of individuals can confidently hope to win without it. Therefore we urge our people to give this matter more thought than they have in the past. Better education and fewer failures should be our motto in this progressive age; and let us look well to the teachers capabilities and qualifications. Your committee is proud of our denominational schools,

and with pleasure would direct attention to the Howard College for boys and the Judson for girls, and our own Baptist Collegiate Institute at Newton for both girls and boys. We also recommend to our preachers Bro. Anderson's "Traveling Seminary," known as Ministers Institutes.

Respectfully Submitted.

J. M. LOFLIN, Ch'n.

Discussed by Bros. Loflin, Parker, Cumbie, Meyers, Avant, and then adopted.

On motion Eld. W. A. Parker, Jr., was invited to present the claims of the Institute Board, which he did in winning style, and collected from the delighted audience \$6.15 for that work.

It being 11 o'clock, the Association adjourned for preaching.

NOTE—Eld. W. C. Avant preached from the pulpit. Theme: Practical Christianity in Mission Work. Collection \$6.07.

EVENING SESSION.

The Treasurer's report was read and properly referred:

The committee on Deceased Ministers reported the death of Eld. J. J. Macon, and named the following brethren to draft a memorial to his memory: W. B. Darby, D. C. Allen and J. M. Loflin. Respectfully Submitted.

W. A. MCBRYDE, Ch'n. Adopted.

The following report on Missions was read and adopted:

Mission work is Scriptural work. The churches were organized to carry it on, by preaching and sending the gospel to witness for Christ in all nations. The Savior said 'the field is the world,' and 'all power is given unto me in Heaven and earth.' 'Go ye, therefore, and preach the gospel to every creature.' This was the commission to the first Baptist church and is our commission to-day. The work is to be continued until the whole world has heard the gospel and then cometh the end.

Respectfully Submitted.

J. W. REYNOLDS, Ch'n.

Discussed by Elds. Parker, Cumbie, Loflin and Nelson.

The report on Temperance was next read as follows:

The cause of Temperance is slowly winning. Public sentiment is against beverage drinking. Strict discipline is still necessary to suppress the monster. The danger is only in the first drink, so beware.

Respectfully Submitted.

D. B. MILLS, Ch'n.

Spoken to by Bro. Mills, and was adopted.

On motion the Association adjourned for the day.

THIRD DAY'S SESSION.

Promptly at 8:30 the meeting was called to order. Prayer by Bro. M. J. Youngblood, a Licentiate.

The Minutes of the previous day's session was read and approved.

The report on Nominations was read as follows:

We find that Ebenezer and White Rock churches ask for the next session.

To preach the next Introductory Sermon—Eld. J. W. Reynolds.

Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention—Eld. D. C. Allen.

To State Convention—Bros. D. B. Mills, W. B. Darby, M. J. Youngblood, J. J. Nelson and J. W. Reynolds.

Executive Committee—C. T. Spradley, T. W. Law and J. W. Head.

Respectfully Submitted.

C. N. MALLETT, Ch'n.

Pending the adoption of the report, the Association, by vote, selected White Rock church as the place for next session.

The report on Sunday-schools was read as follows:

Your Committee is sorry to find that only five of the sixteen churches represented maintain Sunday-schools, showing a decrease from last year of about seventy-five per cent. This ought not so to be. We recommend that churches having no Sabbath-school to appoint a day at once and every member attend a meeting to organize a Sunday-school and then to continue to meet and prayerfully study God's Word and teach the children in the way we would have them go.

Respectfully Submitted.

JOE. J. NELSON, Ch'n.

Spoken to by Bros. Nelson, Darby, Spradley, Mills, and adopted.

On motion, further time was granted the committee of last session on the proposition to consolidate the Salem and Troy Associations.

The following report on Periodicals was read:

The value of sound religious literature can not be over estimated. We ought to be wide awake to the importance of counteracting the evil influence of baneful literature, and to do this we should circulate good religious books and papers, that emphasize the truth as revealed in Scripture. If we had a Colporteur in the field on full time, doing Evangelist work, preaching, distributing religious literature and taking subscriptions for the Alabama Baptist, we would be doing no more than our real duty. The Pamphlet—the Webb-Cumbie debate—we recommend to our people generally.

Respectfully Submitted.

C. T. SPRADLEY, Ch'n.

Spoken to by Bros. W. B. Darby, D. B. Mills, J. J. Nelson, and adopted.

The following report on Documents was read and adopted.

Your Committee finds little on which to base a report. The letters from all the churches except one show that in a small way, they practice what they profess. That one is anti-Mission in practice.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. REYNOLDS, Ch'n.

The report on Bible Cause was then read and adopted:

We are informed of some destitution in our bounds, and we suggest that the churches raise money and supply cheap Bibles to those without them.

Respectfully Submitted.

M. J. YOUNGBLOOD, Ch'n.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

A resolution asking for standing committee of three was adopted.

The Clerk was instructed to have the minutes printed where he could get it neatly done for the least money, and then send to each church only so many as its minute fund will pay for.

The following resolution was read and adopted:

Resolved, That we, the Messengers and visitors of this session, extend our heart-felt thanks to the brethren, friends, and especially the ladies of this community, for the generous hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

Unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

The committee on Finance reported the following:

We find for Missions, cash.....	\$73	90	
Orphans Home, cash.....	12	75	
Minutes, cash.....	27	65	—\$114.30.
Collected at Session.			
For Institute Board.....	\$	6	15
For the Brooks Tomb.....		3	70
For Associational use.....	6	07	—\$ 15.92.
Total cash.....			\$130.22.
Voucher from Spring Hill.....	\$	3	00
“ “ Bethel.....		3	00
“ “ Henderson.....	2	70	—\$8.70 \$138.92.

We have examined the Treasurers' report and find that the \$2.00 in his hands belong to the Orphans' Home as reported by him.

Respectfully Submitted.

J. W. HEAD, Ch'n.

The Moderator announced the standing committees as follows:

On Education—W. B. Darby, W. A. McBryde and M. J. McKee.

On Temperance—M. J. Youngblood, J. J. Nelson and G. W. Hardin.

On Sunday-schools—J. H. Stephens, C. N. Mallett and J. C. Hurley.

On Missions—J. M. Loffin, D. B. Mills and J. A. Jones.

On Church Music—C. T. Spradley, T. R. Searcy and J. W. Head.

The work having been finished, the Association adjourned to meet with White Rock church on Wednesday before the first Sunday in October, 1900.

D. C. ALLEN, Moderator.

W. B. DARBY, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

D. C. Allen, Brundidge, Ala.	J. A. Jones, Henderson, Ala.
John Black, Brundidge, Ala.	B. H. Ogletree, Henderson, Ala.
J. D. Allen, Frescoe, Ala.	D. B. Mills, Troy, Ala.
J. E. Johnson, Frescoe, Ala.	J. H. Stephens, Curry, Ala.
J. W. Reynolds, Baltic, Ala.	J. J. Nelson, Harmony, Ala.
J. M. Loflin, Henderson, Ala.	B. P. Floyd, Harmony, Ala.
T. J. Welch, Banks, Ala.	

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. The delivery of Introductory Sermon.
2. Call for and read letters from the churches.
3. Organize by election of officers.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Appoint Committees on Preaching and Finance.
6. Appoint the hours for meeting and adjourning.
7. Call for Correspondents.
8. Call for agents, etc.
9. Appoint Committees on Documents, Bible Cause, Periodicals, Nominations and Deceased Ministers.
10. Call for report on Education and Temperance.
11. Read minutes, call and revise the roll.
12. Call for Treasurer's report.
13. Call for reports on Missions and Sunday-schools.
14. Call for reports of Committees under 9th item.
15. Miscellaneous business.
16. Appoint Committees on Education, Temperance, Missions and Sunday-schools for next session.
17. Report of Committee on Finance.
18. Fix Clerk's salary and arrange for printing minutes. Read and approve minutes.
19. Adjourn.

NOTE.—The above order of business was arranged at the 53rd session of the Salem Association. The Clerk was instructed to have it printed on the "fly-leaf" of the minutes, with this note appended requiring all succeeding Clerks to observe this arrangement.—CLERK.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSOLIDATION.

Troy, Alabama, October 11th, 1899.

The two committees, one from the Salem and the other from the Troy Association, met in joint conference, and on motion Bro. M. N. Carlisle was called to the Chair, and Bro. W. B. Darby to act as Secretary.

After an informal discussion, on motion of Bro. J. M. Loflin it was unanimously agreed that the churches of the two Associations unite into one to be called The Pike County Baptist Association.

It was further agreed that the churches composing the two Associations be earnestly recommended to ratify the joint action of the two Committees, and those ratifying such action be requested to send delegates, corresponding in number to those they send to their respective Associations, to a convention to be held with the Troy church on Saturday before the 5th Sunday in March, 1900, for the purpose of consolidating said Associations.

It was further agreed that the proceedings of the two Committees be published in the Troy Messenger and that the Secretary forward a copy of same to each church of both Associations.

W. B. DARBY, Sec'y.

M. N. CARLISLE, Ch'n.

 IN MEMORIAM.

Rev. J. J. Macon departed this life at Tuscaloosa, Ala., August the 26th, 1899. Aged 73 years 8 months and 24 days, having been born in Middle Tenn., Dec. the 2nd, 1822. Removed with his father to Heard county, Ga., at an early age, where he grew to manhood, and on the 18th of March, 1845, was married to Miss Nancy Bates by Rev. Humphrey Posey who also baptized him into the neighboring Baptist church. He was licensed to preach by his church in Georgia, just prior to his removal to Pike county, Ala., in 1857, and was ordained to the full work of the ministry by St. Johns church in 1858, from which time he was in active pastoral duties in Pike and Coffee counties until his health failed. In 1886 he lost his wife and a year later was again married to Miss Amanda McDonald by Rev. J. L. Youngblood.

Truly a veteran in the Master's service is fallen. Bro. Macon came to the front in that pioneer period when the Baptist hosts were small and widely scattered, and did more, perhaps, than any man now living in this county, for the extension of Baptist principles, and the great increase in our number. He was a faithful and conscientious Christian and pastor, ever true to all his obligations, as citizen, minister, husband, father, neighbor and friend. Though dead, his work liveth to the praise and glory of the Father. Peace to his soul!

W. B. DARBY, for Committee.

Tabular Statement of the Churches for the Year 1899.

CHURCHES.	CLERKS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.	CONTRIBUTIONS.														
		INCREASE.					DECREASE.									
		No. Last year.	Baptized.	By Letter.	Voucher.	Restored.	Dis. by Letter.	Exclusion.				Erasure.				
		Dead.	Presesnt Membership.	State Missions.	Home Board.	Foreign Board.	Orphans' Home.	For Minutes.	TOTALS.							
Antioch.....	A. J. Patterson, Banks.	Ala. 65	3	1	1	6	4	1	57	4 00	1 00	2 40	3 75	1 00	9 40	
Bethel.....	W. F. Lamb, Banks.	" 88	3	1	1	6	1	1	85	1 00	2 00	2 00	1 50	5 55	4 75	
Chapel Hill.....	J. R. G. Mills, Glee.	" 61	2	1	1	4	3	1	91	3 55	3 80	2 00	1 50	5 30	9 40	
Ebenezer.....	R. A. Morgan, Catalpa.	" 97	9	2	1	4	3	1	98	5 50	3 80	1 50	1 50	5 30	9 40	
Eron.....	J. L. Braswell, Tatums.	" 87	9	1	1	4	2	1	93	5 50	3 80	1 50	1 50	5 30	9 40	
Harmony.....	J. F. Brightwell, Harmony.	" 46	2	2	1	3	1	1	98	7 00	4 05	3 00	1 00	2 25	17 30	
Henderson.....	C. M. Lozan, Henderson.	" 92	7	2	1	3	1	1	72	4 05	3 00	3 00	2 00	1 75	11 75	
Lebanon.....	G. F. Youngblood, Youngblood.	" 64	14	6	1	1	1	1	40	4 00	1 00	3 00	2 00	1 75	7 10	
Mt. Moriah.....	C. N. Mallett, Curry.	" 33	8	3	1	1	2	1	43	3 35	3 35	1 75	1 75	7 10	11 75	
Pea River.....	B. N. Graves, Brundidge.	" 33	5	1	1	1	2	1	40	3 35	3 35	1 75	1 75	7 10	11 75	
Providence.....	B. F. Rodgers, Banks.	" 48	3	1	1	1	1	1	61	5 11	5 11	1 35	1 35	6 15	13 15	
Richland.....	I. E. Griggs, Brundidge.	" 58	3	1	1	1	1	1	61	5 11	5 11	1 35	1 35	6 15	13 15	
Spring Hill.....	T. W. Law, Nilco.	" 147	14	5	1	3	6	3	157	6 00	2 00	4 00	1 15	13 15	3 00	
St. Johns.....	U. S. Fuller, Prescoe.	" 147	14	5	1	3	6	3	157	6 00	2 00	4 00	1 15	13 15	3 00	
Starkeville.....	E. H. Ham, Worthy.	" 29	1	2	1	1	1	1	29	3 05	1 00	1 00	1 00	4 05	4 05	
Shady Grove.....	T. B. Allen, Brundidge.	" 31	9	2	1	1	1	1	69	4 05	1 00	1 00	1 00	5 55	5 55	
White Rock.....	W. J. Collins, Baulke.	" 80	3	2	1	1	1	1	41	3 05	1 00	1 00	1 00	5 55	5 55	
Zebulon.....	Frank Hickman, DeLeon.	" 28	3	2	1	1	1	1	33	4 45	1 50	1 50	1 50	5 95	5 95	
Total.....		1296	95	33	2	14	56	22	9	1287	\$44.35	\$17.30	\$12.25	\$10.75	\$27.65	\$112.30

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This body shall be called the Salem Baptist Association, composed of messengers chosen from the different churches constituting it, holding annual sessions at such time and place as it may select.

Art. 2. Believing that churches are independent religious bodies, owing allegiance only to Christ, this Association claims no right to interfere authoritatively with their internal concerns.

Art. 3. The Association shall elect from its membership, at each annual session, by ballot, a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer and an Executive Committee, composed of three brethren, who shall hold their office until their successors are chosen.

Art. 4. The Moderator shall preside over the body, appoint all committees, unless otherwise instructed, and decide all points of order by the rules in Mell's Parliamentary Practice, subject to an appeal to the body.

Art. 5. The Clerk shall keep a record of the proceedings, direct the printing and distributing of the Minutes, and perform such other duties as belong to his office.

Art. 6. The Treasurer shall take charge of the money and general property of the Association; report in writing at each annual session the condition of the finances, exhibiting vouchers for all sums paid out; he shall also provide himself with blank receipts to be filled and handed to the delegates from the several churches respectively, who may bring up funds, and at the expiration of his term, deliver to his successor the property of the Association in hand.

Art. 7. The Executive Committee may fill vacancies occurring in its membership, and shall, under the direction of the Association, manage its business during its adjournment, and act as a Finance Committee.

Art. 8. At each session, committees of three shall be appointed to report in writing the following subjects: Preaching, Documents, Sunday schools, Missions, Deceased Ministers, Education and Temperance.

Art. 9. Churches wishing to become members of this body must petition by letter or messenger, and if found to be scriptural in doctrine and practice, be received to fellowship by vote of the Association, and welcomed by the Moderator.

Art. 10. Churches wishing to change their membership, may petition by letter or messenger, and, if in fellowship with the body, be dismissed in due form. Any infringements of the laws of this Association, or departure from the faith and practice of the Scriptures of the church, will be a cause of complaint against such church, and will subject it to the discipline of the body.

Art. 11. Messengers, before being enrolled as members, must present evidence of their appointment, giving also the number of the membership of their church, the number received during the past year by baptism, letter and restoration, the number dismissed, expelled and deceased, with an account of all the money given to the support of the gospel and general benevolence, the condition of the Sunday schools, with statistics, prayer meetings and other good works engaged in by their churches.

Art. 12. Each church shall be entitled to five messengers, when the membership is fifty, and one for every additional twenty-five, or fractional part thereof.

Art. 13. Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Art. 14. The minutes of the Association must be read, approved and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before final adjournment.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in the existence of one only living God, and that He has made Himself known to His people under the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the same in essence and every Divine perfection.
2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election; that God chose in Christ Jesus from before the foundation of the world to save them that believe, that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestinated them unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ according to the good pleasure of His grace.
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will and ability.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.
7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.
8. We believe that nothing can separate true believers from the love of God, but that they will be kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time.
9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church of Christ; that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and that immersion only is baptism.
10. We believe in the resurrection and the general judgment.
11. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be eternal, and the joy of the righteous will be everlasting.
12. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances, only such as are called of God, as was Aaron, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery, and in fellowship with the church of which he is a member.



